The *UNIVERSAL SPEC*
AND
WEEKLY JOUR

By **Henry Stonecastle**, of *Lincoln's-Inn*

SATURDAY July 28, 174

To the AUTHOR *of the* UNIVERSAL SPECTATOR.

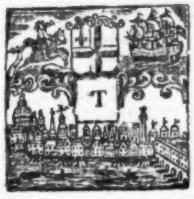
SIR,

BY publishing the following Letter, when nothing of Importance happens to intervene, you'll oblige,

Your Constant Reader,

S. S.

Ah! molliter Ossa quiescant.



'HE many fruitless Attempts that have been already made to immortalize the late Poet, by any but his own Performances, ought to discourage me too: However, one Comfort is, I have no Character to lose, should I fail, and as little Ambition to acquire one by Dint of Poetry: My very Deficiencies, you see, are so many Advantages to me; and tho' I may probably lose my Aim with Regard to Mr. POPE's Character, yet, Thanks to my Obscurity, I shall be as secure as ever myself.

'Now for your *celebrating Poets*, C—BB—R, and them, to risque exposing themselves, is a dangerous Experiment indeed!—But I'm talking of Impossibilities: For how can any one, who is dipt all over in Sack once a Year, write any thing insipid? Nay if he shou'd happen to miscarry, there are who can patronize his very Failings.——Yet once a Year, methinks, is enough to tempt their Humanity too—Besides, tho' they may have promised to put up with his *Odes*, (which by the bye, are daring Attempts; for *Flattery*, like *Poison*, requires of all others the finest Infusion; or is the most nauseous, the most shocking, and hardest Potion to swallow down) yet sure a Person must have a more than ordinary Command over his Temper, that can read his *Epitaphs* with the same Indifference.

'I could almost find in my Heart to kill a Quarter of an Hour, if it was only to discourage the Rest of the Fraternity from aiming at Things for which they are as rude by Nature, as unpolish'd by Art.—What, in the Name of APOLLO, can be the Meaning of that Line and a half—

\- - - - - - POPE, *like his Verse,*
Had still been breathing, and escap'd the Hearse?

'Accounts differ very strangely sure! For mine run; He was carry'd by Six of the Poorest and Oldest Men in his Parish to the Grave; and for a Man to botch up a *Hearse* out of Six old Fellows, is something far above your low poetical Fictions, or Pindaric Transitions! But stay, let me not be too precipitate neither.—Tho' the Word *Hearse*, in the usual Signification, means a Vehicle to convey the Corpse in, yet one may surely be allow'd to extend its Meaning a little upon a Pinch; and then it means no more than a *Grave*, a Grave no more than *Death*; so the Lines in blank Verse would have sounded Heroically enough.

If Graves held only such, POPE, *like his Verse,*
Had still been breathing, and escap'd the Death.

'It would be too hard-hearted to ask what Power of Magic, what PROMETHEUS, or what ÆSCULAPIUS infus'd the Breath of Life into the Nostrils of *Poetry*! Come, we'll take it for granted the Poet was vastly harmless, and would not mean any Thing for the World.

'You'll pardon this little Raillery, Sir, when I have told you, nothing but a thorough Indignation to find so unparallell'd a Man, *stigmatiz'd* by so unparallell'd a Versifier, could have provok'd me to it! However, while the Poet's Writings continue still to charm the Wise, Witty, and Gay; to inspire every one but your *Laureats* with noble Sentiments, and the honourable Ambition of being thought his Admirers; so long 'will they give this Epitaph the Lye, if, perchance, 'it should be preserv'd as a compleat Instance of the 'Art of *sinking in Poetry*.

'To prevent being stung to the Quick with his *Insipid Criticisms*, I'll e'en go a little out of my own Sphere, 'to be quite out of his; that if he is determin'd to 'make his Observations upon the following Epitaph, 'he must go upon Trust for the Meaning.

'You'll be impatient to be dismiss'd, and shall have 'your Wish, after I have made a Reflection or two upon 'the Inhumanity of insulting over the Ashes of the 'most inveterate Enemy. The greatest Robberies, Murder, Suicide, nay High-Treason itself, have not such 'lasting Punishments inflicted on them, as the unhappy 'Person who meets with a scurrilous Epitaph. The 'Offender, in any of the above Cases, is for the most 'Part indeed capitally convicted; the Gibbet, Hurdle, 'Cross-Roads, or Temple-Bar proclaim the Criminal: 'But even this flagrant Example, tho' subject to the most 'incurious Eye, is not near so flagrant as an undeserved 'bad Character, transmitted to Posterity in Black and 'White.

'But I may perhaps be ask'd here, if the Poet himself has not left as many inhumane Instances of this 'Scurrility as any one whatever? I answer absolutely in 'the Negative: His own Words (*if there is Truth in Virtue or in Song*) sufficiently justify the Assertion.

Curs'd be the Verse, how sweet soe'er it flow,
That tends to make one honest Man my Foe:
Give Virtue Scandal, Innocence a Fear,
Or from the soft-ey'd Virgin draw a Tear.

'Let but any impartial Reader weigh the preceeding 'Lines, and he must frankly own, they could flow from none but the purest Fountain Head; from a Breast, susceptable of, or rather open to, the most generous Passions of Honour, Truth, and Good-breeding.

'I may venture to lay this down almost as a general 'Rule, that wherever Mr. POPE has been vastly severe against a Person, his Censure must undoubtedly have been founded in *Truth*, tho' the Offender might have pass'd on tolerably in the Eye of the World. So penetrating a Man, could not write with either unmeaning or undistinguish'd Praise or Dispraise; and when the 'Aim of Satire, as his was in an eminent Degree, is 'to discountenance and detect Vice, tho' lurking beneath the most specious Outside; to spur one on to 'Emulation by pointing out bright Examples, and the noblest Patterns of Virtue;—*Satire*, I say, under these 'Restrictions, is a most humane and benevolent Disposition, to correct Vice, on the one Hand, and display 'Virtue in its proper Colours on the other. What then 'must be our Sentiments in Regard to the malicious Libeller? A Man, who is himself closing the *last Scene* 'of Life, and might have gone off with *Applause*, if 'happily his own Thirst after Revenge don't give too 'good a Handle to do him Justice!

'After I had almost finish'd this Letter, I happen'd to cast my Eye upon one of the News Papers, where I 'saw an Epigram in *English* upon Mr. POPE's Death, 'much the same as mine is in *Greek*, and therefore, lest 'the Author of it should accuse me of stealing his 'Thought, I think it would be better to suppress mine; 'but that as you please: However, if you do publish it, 'I desire, for a particular Reason, you'll defer it a Post 'or two longer; but the Letter when you please.'

Εἶχε φυσιν, φυσεως τι νομως τυξ' ἀμφιμελαινα——
"E'σω Νυξιοιος," Ζευς φαθο, σαρξ' ἐφατο.
Αἱ Χαριτες Μασαι τε φιλως 'εχαιρησατ,—" 'Ολυμπον
" 'Οικειον Ποπιος," Ζευς φαθο, σαρξ σωθες.

From my own APARTMENT.

IN my Paper of this Day Fortnight I gave my Reasons, as a *public British Writer*, for interesting myself in such a *Character* as Mr. POPE's, and endeavoured to shew that it ought not to be looked upon as the engaging in any *literary Party*. The Cause of this *great Genius* is the Cause of *Reason* and *Learning* themselves, which, will e- read best *together*, I have kept them to accompany each other.

My last Paper it seems has given *great Offence*, especially to two of the Persons who suppose themselves characterised in it. Observe how the first of them scolds upon the Occasion.

To Old Harry Stonecastle.

'MARRY come up, Mr. MEDDLESOME! and what if I did say that all the Folks come to 'their Doors *to gaze at me*, and half the pretty Fellows 'in the Park are there for *my Company*? May not a Body have the Liberty of speaking the *Truth* of one's 'self, when it is so *notorious*? I am sure *I hear* what the 'People say as I walk along, and am therefore a better 'Judge than a *fusty decrepid old Batchelor*, who cannot 'pretend he had ever the Honour of walking *with me*. 'But I believe I know your *Queer Phiz*, and shall inform 'one of my *humble* Servants how to give you *due Correction*.

FLORELLA.

This due Correction, I suppose, is to be that of the Cane. But FLORELLA may be ashamed to talk of any such Thing, if she really thinks me such a decrepid old Fellow as she seems to intimate. For my own Part, I will not be frightened till I see the *Champion* she sends to revenge her Quarrel: Because I never yet found, notwithstanding the little Decays of Nature, but the *Remains* of a well confirmed and well kept Constitution were a Match for the *Prime* of any one of your very pretty Fellows; and of such I suppose FLORELLA's Admirers to consist.

My other *angry Correspondent* is quite of a *different Opinion* from this Lady, and treats me with Contempt on Account of my *Youth*.

To HENRY STONECASTLE, *Esq;*

SIR,

'FOR a *Gentleman* you ought to appear, and as such 'I expect you should *answer* me, tho' you have 'not acted in *that Character* in your last *Speculation*. 'It has always been allowed that *Age is honourable*, and 'it is surprising that such a Man as You, tho' but a 'Boy to ME (not, I suppose, above *fifty* or *sixty*) should 'not reflect upon your own Approaches *towards* this 'honourable State. What signify your *Book Accounts* 'of Men, Times, and Characters? If I say *I can remember*, and will *aver* such a Thing upon *my own Knowledge*, pray who's to be believed, you, who know 'nothing before the Revolution, but by *reading* only, 'or I, who have *walked a hundred Times* in the Mall 'with King CHARLES the Second? Call me obstinate, 'Sir, or what you will, I affirm that when *I speak*, such 'Juniors as you ought to be *silent*; or at most should 'only *submissively* offer your Opinion, without insisting 'on it. But there was a *pert* Sort of a Fellow not long 'ago, that contradicted me to my Face in *George's* Coffee-House, and I shrewdly suspect it was *yourself*. If 'so, I shall *know* you again, Sir, another Time; and '*that's enough*.

RUGOSUS.

Here seems to be some *Threatning* again: In answer to which I can only say, that if ever I live to the *honourable* Age of Mr. RUGOSUS, I shall make it a Rule not to claim the Authority of being more positive than younger Persons, whose Faculties are *strong*, merely because I lie under the natural Suspicion of having an *impaired*, and consequently a *treacherous Memory*.

Note, PRUDILLA's Letter came too late for this Week.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Rome, July 24. Upon the 24th and 26th of last Month, ten or twelve Feluccas from Naples had the good Fortune to get into the Mouth of the little River Baudino, above Terracini, and to land some Provisions, of which the Neapolitan and Spanish Armies stood in great Need. It was not the Duke Atrisco, as was reported, but General de la Vieuville, who was detach'd upon the 24th of last Month with four or five Thousand Men: He march'd into Abruzzo to join Col. Vargas, in order to stop Count Soro's Progress on that Side. It is certain that the Austrian Army does not advance, and Count Gages keeps firm and in good Order at Velletri. He is making great Works at Sermeneta, a Castle naturally strong, in the great Road to Naples, which commands the Defiles of Sezze and Fondi, and is not above two Posts from Velletri. To this Place it is thought he will retire, if he cannot maintain himself at Velletri for want of Provisions.

Moscow, June 22. M. de Hohenheliz, the Court of Vienna's Resident here, lately dispatch'd a Courier thither, with Advice that the Empress was pleas'd to content herself with the Satisfaction offer'd her by the Queen of Hungary for the Affair of the Marquess de Botta.

Petersbourg, July 7. The Privy Council is still taken up with examining the Marquess de la Chetardie's Papers. As he has been oblig'd to return all the Presents he had receiv'd from the Empress, he has found himself under a Necessity of selling, for half Value, the magnificent Equipages which a Ship from Rouen brought him about a Month ago, and which he design'd to make use of when he should have publick Audience of her Imperial Majesty. It has been discover'd that this Nobleman's dangerous Projects tended to engage the Empress to renounce the Alliance renew'd with the Courts of Vienna and London, [*Quære*, Is that Alliance actually renew'd, or is it only talk'd of as yet?] and, in case he met with no Success, to raise a Rebellion in the Empire, in order to set up the Brunswick Family again. Notwithstanding the strict Enquiry made after the Marquis de la Chetardie's Debts at Moscow, it is found that he owes n thing there, having always paid ready Money for every thing. The better to succeed in his Designs, and wriggle himself into the Favour of the Nobleese of both Sexes, he used to promote Grand Assemblies, where he treated them with an Elegancy and Generosity which they had hitherto been Strangers to, and 'tis well known that his Court remitted him above a Million of Livres since his Return to this Court.

Circular Letters have been dispatch'd to all the Governors of Provinces, requiring them to repair to Moscow within a Month, in order to receive from her Imperial Majesty's own Mouth such Orders as she shall think fit to give them for the Safety of the Empire.

Hambourg, July 14. It is at Vienna that the Marquess de la Chetardie's Letters, which were intercepted in Russia, have been decypher'd.

Hambourg, July 28. The Vice Admiral Mischoukow commands the Russian Squadron, consisting of twelve Men of War and a Frigat, which put to Sea the 23d of June, O. S. from Cronstadt; and the Rear Admiral Bars that from Revel, which sailed the 20th of the same Month, and was composed of nine Ships of 76, 66, and 54 Guns. Seven Ships are likewise sailed from Archangel.

Stralsund, July 16. The Squadron, which is to carry over the Princess Royal to Sweden, has got out into the Road under the Island of Rugen: It consists of six Men of War, besides several Frigates and Sloops, under the Command of Admiral Count Taube. The Admiral's Ship mounts 115 Guns and 1200 Men, and the whole Squadron has about 4000 Sailors and Soldiers on board.

Francfort, July 26. We hear that the Duke d'Harcourt arriv'd the 23d Instant in the Neighbourhood of Metz with the Corps under his Command; and that the Chevalier de Belleisle, Lieutenant-General, is already advanc'd as far as Bitsche with a large Body of Troops. We also hear that Prince Charles of Lorrain has detach'd a large Body of Forces towards the Mountains of Bitsche, in order to prevent the Junction of that Corps with Marshal Coigny's Army.

Lisle, July 26. The 22d Instant Count Wassenaer was at the King's Levee at Arras, and presented his Son to his Majesty, who receiv'd him with great Demonstrations of Kindness. The next Day his Excellency had his Audience of Leave of the King, none being present but the Count d'Argenson, Minister and Secretary at War. After that the Count had express'd his great Satisfaction in the Commission he was honour'd with, to which his last Orders oblig'd him to put an End, and had renew'd the Assurances of the Pleasure which the States General would always take in cultivating the King's Friendship; his Majesty made Answer, That nothing could be more agreeable to him than the fresh Assurances he receiv'd from his Mouth of their High Mightinesses Sentiments and that he was very sorry the present Situation of Affairs would not permit his Excellency to stay longer near his Person. After the Audience Count Wassenaer staid a little while in the King's Anti-Chamber, to take his Leave of the Lords of the Court: Soon after his Majesty pass'd thro' the Anti-Chamber, and bid *Adieu* to M. Wassenaer.

Ghent, July 26. Marshal Saxe's Army is still behind the Lys in a very strong Camp, lying between Menin, Courtrai and Harlebeck. The French have besides a flying Camp near Deynse; but we have just receiv'd Advice that 4000 English have pass'd the Scheld near Gavre, in order to endeavour to dislodge them, and that they are to be sustain'd in this Attempt by some other Troops from the Confederate Army.

Hague, July 26. According to the Accounts we have receiv'd of the Whale-Fishery, it has been very favourable this Year, our Ships having catch'd 662, the Hambourghers 45, the Inhabitants of Altena 20, those of Bremen 18, and those of Embden 8.——And the English, (being wiser than their Neighbours, and despising such paltry Traffick) *none*.

Amsterdam, July 27. They write from Santa Cruz in Barbary of the 5th of June, that a contagious Distemper is broke out there, which carries off ten or twelve in a Day, where not more than one used to die in a Month. We hear it likewise appears again with Violence at Morocco, which has occasion'd a great Alarm here; and the more so, as 'tis fear'd the Moors are ignorant of Precautions necessary to be taken on such melancholy Occasions.

Nancy, July 10. A Courier is just arriv'd with secret Dispatches. King Stanislaus is set out for Metz, and the Queen for Paris. Their Majesties have remov'd all their most valuable Furniture, &c. from Luneville and this City. Twelve Pieces of Cannon from Luneville and sixteen from Metz, have been brought hither, with a suitable Quantity of warlike Stores and a Company of Gunners.

Paris, July 20. The Secretary of the Russian Embassy has presented a Memorial to the Council of State concerning the Marquess de la Chetardie.

Paris, July 24. The Count de St. Severin, late Embassador to the Court of Sweden, is destin'd to replace the Marquess de la Chetardie at the Russian Court.

All the Inhabitants of the open Country in Lorrain have been disarm'd, and their Arms sent to the Peasants of Alsace, on whose Loyalty the Court may entirely depend, as they have on many Occasions given signal Proofs of it.

Oporto, June 28. An English Privateer, call'd the Triumph, commanded by Capt. Coke, brought into this River a small Spanish Privateer, of four Carriage Guns and fifty Men, and the Vessel that sail'd last from Ferrol for the Havanna with Guns and other Stores, which she took after a small Engagement, attended with no Loss.

SCOTLAND.

Leith, July 16. This Afternoon arriv'd the Margaret, of Leith, Thomas Young, Master, from Arundale in Norway, loaden with Wine and Fruits: She was taken by a French Privateer twenty-five Leagues off this Coast, and ransom'd for 500 l. and 15 l. to the Master: One Roe is pledg'd for the Ransom. They plunder'd all the Cabin Holes, and pillag'd and robb'd the poor Sailors of their Clothes, &c. and took the Master's Silver Buckles out of his Shoes. He parted with her last Tuesday.

Last Night died, at his House of Hatton, the Right Hon. Charles Earl of Lauderdale, one of the Sixteen Peers for Scotland, Sheriff-Principal of the Shire of Edinburgh, and Preses of the Court of Police. He is succeeded in Honours and Estate by his eldest Son, James Lord Maitland.

COUNTRY NEWS.

Newcastle, July 18. The French Privateer which took Capt. Turner of Sunderland, about twelve Days ago, has since that time cruiz'd off this Harbour; and we are credibly inform'd that the Person, on board the said Privateer, who shot Capt. Turner's Mate, is call'd Byers, belongs to Blyth Nook, and is Pilot of her.

Bristol, July 21. Last Friday a Ball of Fire fell on a Hay-Cock at Twerton, near Bath, and went thro' the Hay into the Earth: It struck two Men that were near it down, but did not hurt them; and about two Miles from the same Place Hail had been measur'd nine Inches deep, some of the Stones measuring two Inches round.

LONDON.

It is said an Order is gone from the Lords of the Admiralty for Admiral Matthews to return home.

And Admiral Rowley is order'd to take on him the Command of the Fleet in the Mediterranean in his room.

Tuesday Orders were sent from the Lords of the Admiralty for the Fleet at Spithead, consisting of sixteen Sail, to put to Sea forthwith, in quest, as it is suppos'd, of the Brest Squadron, which sail'd from thence the 16th Instant, with a Design to intercept our Ships coming from the East-Indies.

The same Day the Lords of the Admiralty order'd the Mary Galley of 40 Guns, the Wager of 20, and the Jamaica Sloop of 20 and 16 Swivels, now lying at Deptford, to sail immediately on a Cruize.

His Majesty has been pleas'd to appoint Capt. Burrard, Brother to Henry Burrard, Esq; Member of Parliament for Yarmouth in Hants, to be Lieutenant-Colonel of the American Regiment of Foot.

Last Week was held a General Court of the South-Sea Company, when, after reading the Minutes of the last General Court, a Dividend of 1 3 qrs. was declar'd due at Midsummer last on the Stock of that Company, payable the 7th of August next.

By Order of his Grace the Duke of Montagu, Thomas Dummer, Esq; Deputy-Master of the Great Wardrobe, has given Notice to the Dean and Chapter of St. Peter at Westminster, that Saturday the 20th Day of October next is fix'd by his Majesty for the Instalment of the ten following Knights of the Bath, in King Henry the Seventh's Chapel, viz. * Sir Thomas Robinson, Minister at Vienna, * Sir Philip Honeywood, Sir James Cambell, * Sir John Legonier, Sir John Cope in Scotland, Lord Viscount Fitzwilliams, Sir Thomas Whitmore, Sir Henry Calthrope, Sir William Morden Harbord, and Sir Charles Hanbury Williams. Those mark'd * are abroad, and are to be install'd by Proxies.

On Sunday Paul Moreton, Esq; in the Commission of the Peace for the County of Kent, was married at Newington in Surrey, to Miss Polly Reading, of Banstead, an agreeable young Lady with a Fortune of 15,000 l.

The same Day Mr. Martin Foulks, Collector of the Customs for the Port of Bristol, was married at St. John's Church, Southwark, to Miss Amelia-Frances Charlton, of Greenwich, a beautiful young Lady with a Fortune of 8000 l.

Monday Morning was married at St. Anne's, Soho, —— Thornly, Esq; to Miss Saville, eldest Daughter of the late Sir George Saville, a fine young Lady with a Fortune of 40,000 l. As soon as the Ceremony was over, they set out for Nottinghamshire.

On Friday last died, at her Daughter's House in Westminster, the Lady J'Anson, Mother of Sir Thomas J'Anson, Bart. She was Daughter of William Rokebey, Esq; of Ackware-Park in the County of York, and Niece both to Judge Rokebey, (one of King William's Judges) and also to the Right Hon Sir Thomas Bury, late Lord Chief Baron of his Majesty's Court of Exchequer.

Last Sunday died at his Seat at Kempton-Park, near Hampton-Court, in the 58th Year of his Age, Sir John Chardin, Bart. Son to Sir John Chardin, (so well known for his Travels into Persia and the Eastern Countries) who came hither to settle upon the Persecution of the Protestants in France, and had the Honour of

Knighthood conferr'd on him in March, 1680, by King Charles II. As he lived and died celibate, and raiſed his Fortune by his own Parts and Induſtry, he thought himſelf free to beſtow it as he liked, and he had grand Notions of high and noble Charities; purſuant to a Promiſe made in his Life-time (for he was a peculiar Obſerver of his Word) he has left 1000 l. to an old Steward; the ſame Sum to his Son, whom he bound, and afterwards ſet up; 1000 l. towards rebuilding the Church of Sunbury, and for an Organ; 2000 l. to the Charity-Boys of three Pariſhes in London, in return for the Edification receiv'd by him at their Churches; 1000 l. to each of his Godſons, and the Bulk of his Eſtate to one of theſe, of the Name of Chardin. He has order'd his Interment, and a Monument for himſelf, in Weſtminſter-Abbey, at a particular Poſtern, through which he uſually enter'd.

Laſt Sunday Night died, at his Lodgings at Hampſtead, where he went for the Recovery of his Health, Mr. Cornelius Stapleton, principal Clerk of the Board of Ordnance, reputed worth 10,000 l.

At the Aſſizes at Cambridge (which ended laſt Week) the Woman formerly mention'd was try'd for the Murder of her Child; it appear'd that ſhe cut its Head off with a Butcher's Knife, while her Huſband was gone to warm ſome Milk; when the Man return'd he found the Child's Head in the Houſe, but the Body ſhe had flung into the Street. She had been a Lunatick for ſome Years paſt, and was thereupon acquitted. The Child was about 30 Weeks old.

James Matthews, the Attorney, condemn'd at the laſt Aſſizes, for robbing the Norwich Stage-Coach in September, but repriev'd, was order'd to be tranſported for 14 Years.

Laſt Week the Aſſizes ended at Rocheſter, which proving a Maiden one, the Judges, &c. were preſented with white Gloves, according to Cuſtom.

At the Aſſizes held at Chelmsford, for the County of Eſſex, William Nelſon for Burglary, and George Dawkings, alias George Criſpe, for Horſe-ſtealing, were condemn'd, but repriev'd before the Lord Chief Juſtice Willes left the Town.

On Friday about Noon 35 Horſemen, double arm'd with Blunderbuſſes, Carbines, Piſtols, &c. came to Barrowhedges, on the Edge of Banſtead Downs, where they ſpent 17 l. by Ten at Night. During their Stay there, they ſuffer'd no one who enter'd the Houſe to go before them, except ſome who belong'd to themſelves. From this Place they went to Merſtham, a Village within four Miles of Kygate, where they continu'd the greateſt Part of the Night. It is ſuppoſed their Deſign was to reſcue John Grayling, who had been tranſported for Smuggling, at an Aſſizes at Suſſex, and was lately taken in a Cutter from Bologne; but was laſt Friday at Croydon, in his Way to Horſham, under the Guard of an Officer, and about 30 Foot Soldiers. Which Officer being inform'd of this Aſſembly, and apprehenſive of an Attack, acquainted his Priſoner that Evening, that if any Attempt was made to reſcue him, he would, on the firſt Appearance of any People to that Purpoſe, directly ſhoot him thro' the Head; (of this, 'tis preſum'd, Grayling gave his Friends at Merſtham Notice, who abruptly left the Place before Morning) by which Means, and detaining his Priſoner at Croydon 'till Saturday Morning, he convey'd him ſafe to Horſham, where the Aſſizes were to begin laſt Tueſday.

Yeſterday ſe'nnight Mr. Aihley, a Pin-maker in Bermondſey-ſtreet, Southwark, was attack'd by ſix Fellows arm'd with Cutlaſſes, in Lock-Fields, who us'd him in a barbarous Manner, and robb'd him of his Watch and eleven Guineas in Money, and then made off. The ſaid Fields have been a common Rendezvous for Thieves and Whores for many Years, to the great Scandal of all thoſe whoſe Buſineſs it is to detect and puniſh Vice.

Laſt Week one Daniel Weedon, a Man who drove his own Waggon, and reckon'd rich, was ſtopp'd by two Ruffians, near Abbots-Langley in Hertfordſhire, who demanded his Money, and upon his refuſing to comply with their Requeſt they murder'd him on the Spot, robb'd him of what Caſh he had about him, and got off undiſcover'd.

Monday Morning early the Houſe of Mr. Fanner, a Corn-chandler in Goodman's-fields, was broke open by ſome Rogues, who carried off undiſcover'd 200 l. in Money, beſides other Things.

Laſt Saturday Mr. Hezekiah Davis, late a reputable Mancheſter Factor, who had been a Priſoner in the Fleet about three Weeks, being under ſome Diſorder of Mind, went into a Cloſet in the Fleet Cellar, and hang'd himſelf on a Nail that faſten'd the Cloſet Door. He was heard to ſay on Friday Night, that he would be at Liberty before three Days were over, and that the Warden ſhould not be ſued for it.

They write from Dreſden of the 19th Inſtant, that on the 17th they receiv'd the agreeable News that the Queen of the Two Sicilies is ſafely deliver'd of a Prince.

According to Advices from Warſaw, there has been a very ſharp Conteſt between ſome of the Life-Guards and Sibliſky's Dragoons: From Words they fell to Blows; the Life-Guards, who remained Maſters of the Field, had ſeveral wounded, and the Dragoons 10 kill'd on the Spot, and a great Number wounded. The Court is making ſtrict Inquiry into the Cauſe of this Quarrel, in order to puniſh the Authors of it. Theſe Advices aſſure us, that there are ſtill great Diviſions among the Poliſh Grandees.

They write from Toulon, that the Merchants of that Place had deliver'd to M. de Maurepas a Liſt of Ships taken by the Engliſh (belonging to them) ſince the War commenced to the 15th of June, whereby it appears they have loſt ſixty-nine, the whole Value of which they compute at three Millions and a half of Livres.

The Engliſh Fleet is return'd from the Road of Vado into that of Hieres, and has again block'd up Marſeilles and Toulon.

As the following Letter is already handed about, we hope our inſerting it will not be taken amiſs, ſeeing it would in the long Run make its Way among the Publick.

Nation, June 30, 1744.

SIR,

AS we that live retir'd in the Country often content ourſelves with the Information we derive from News-Papers on a Market-Day, I did not ſo early obſerve the Advertiſement from your Office of the 23d of this Month; *That, in Purſuance of His Majeſty's Pleaſure, the Right Honourable the Lords Commiſſioners of the Admiralty had made the following Promotions therein mentioned:* In which I could not but obſerve, there was no Mention of my Name amongſt the Flag Officers; though by your Letter of the 16th Inſtant, you directed to me as Vice-Admiral of the Red, and (by their Lordſhip's Orders) deſir'd my Opinion on an Affair for His Majeſty's Service, which I very honeſtly gave them, as I judg'd moſt conducive to His Honour: So that their Lordſhips could not be uninform'd, that I was in the Land of the Living.

Tho' the Promotions are ſaid to be made by their Lordſhips Orders, yet we all know the Communication of His Majeſty's Pleaſure muſt come from the firſt Lord in the Commiſſion; from whom principally His Majeſty is ſuppoſ'd to receive His Informations, on which His Royal Orders are founded. And as it is a known Maxim of our Law *that the King can do no Wrong*, founded, as I apprehend, on the Perſuaſion, that the Crown never does ſo but from the Miſinformation of thoſe whoſe reſpective Provinces are to inform His Majeſty of the particular Affairs under their Care, the firſt Suggeſtion that naturally occurs to an Officer, that has the fulleſt Teſtimonies in his Cuſtody, of having happily ſerved His Majeſty in the Command he was intruſted with, to His Royal Approbation, is, that Your firſt Commiſſioner muſt either have informed His Majeſty that I was dead, or have laid ſomething to my Charge, rendering me unfit to riſe in my Rank in the Royal Navy; of which being inſenſible myſelf, I deſire their Lordſhips would be pleas'd to inform me in what it conſiſts, having both in Action and Advice, always to the beſt of my Judgment, endeavour'd to ſerve our Royal Maſter with a Zeal and Activity becoming a Faithful and Loyal Subject, and having hitherto receiv'd the publick Approbation of your Board. I confeſs at my Time of Life, a Retirement from the Hurry of Buſineſs to prepare for the general Audit, which every Chriſtian ought to have perpetually in his Mind, is what can't but be deſirable, and might rather give me Occaſion to rejoice, than any Concern, which, (I thank God) it does very little; yet that I might not by any be thought to be one that would decline the publick Service, I have thought proper to remind their Lordſhips I am living, and have (I thank God) the ſame honeſt Zeal reigning in my Breaſt, that has animated me on all Occaſions to approve myſelf a faithful and zealous Subject and Servant to my Royal Maſter. And if the firſt Lord Commiſſioner has repreſented me in any other Light to our Royal Maſter, he has acted with a Degeneracy unbecoming the Deſcendant from a Noble Father, whoſe Memory I reverence and eſteem; tho' I have no Compliments to make to the Judgment or Conduct of the Son.

June 30, 1744.

To *Thomas Corbett*, Eſq;
Secretary of the Admiralty.

N. B. *To this no Anſwer was return'd.*

Letters from Scarborough in Yorkſhire adviſe, that laſt Tueſday two French Privateers of great Force appear'd off that Place, and ſunk ſeveral Fiſhing Boat; a Cruelty which none but the baſeſt Villains would be guilty of.

By a Letter from Dunkirk we have Advice, that there are 15,000 Men encamp'd near that Place, and that there are 46 Engliſh Prizes in the Harbour, moſt of whom are fitting out for Privateers to cruize againſt the Engliſh.

We hear that a Man of War, &c. will ſoon ſail to cruize off the Orkneys, in order to protect the Trade coming North about, from falling a Prey to the French Privateers, who have very much infeſted thoſe Seas.

Letters from Port-Mahon, dated June 18, adviſe, that the Chicheſter Man of War had taken two Spaniſh Privateers of great Force, and carry'd them into that Harbour: The Chicheſter loſt ſeveral Men in the Engagement.

The Diſpatch Privateer, of Plymouth, has taken two French Ships, and carried them in there; one of 250 Tons, newly built, and the other of 200 Tons: The Privateer had been out but nine Days.

The Victor, Nicholas, from the Levant for Marſeilles, is taken by the Engliſh, and ſent into Minorca.

The Rocheſter Privateer, Capt. Cockbourn, has taken a Ship with Spaniſh Effects on board, bound to the North, and ſent her into Rocheſter laſt Sunday.

Lieutenant Sullivan, of the Terrible Privateer belonging to Liverpool, arriv'd at Cork the 9th Inſtant, in a Prize laden with Wine and Fruit.

On Tueſday came Advice, that the Lucy, Capt. Smith, and the Crabb, Capt. Tidbatt, from Jamaica, are both arriv'd at Briſtol, by whom there is a Confirmation of the fifteen Ships from Martinico being taken by Commodore Warren, and carried into Antigua; and that War was declar'd there the 18th of May.

The Margaretta, ——, from Hambourg for Leith, is taken by a Privateer.

The Phœnix Wilſon, from Whitehaven for Rotterdam, is taken by the French and carry'd into Dunkirk.

There are three Ships carried into Bilboa, two of them laden with Sugar, but the Cargo, &c. of the third is not mention'd.

Laſt Week an extraordinary Trial came on at Doctors Commons before Sir Henry Penrice, wherein the Commander of one of his Majeſty's Ships was Plaintiff, and the Owners of a French Ship, call'd the Ocean, Defendants: It appear'd that the ſaid Ship was taken before the Declaration of War, and was bound from Marſeilles to Martinico, whereupon ſhe was order'd to be reſtor'd to her Owners.

Laſt Saturday the Le Mars and the Riſing Sun, two French Prizes, were condemn'd by a Court of Admiralty as legal Captures, and the Shares order'd to be paid to the Captors in one Month's Time.

Letter from Falmouth, dated July 19.

'On the 12th Inſtant ſail'd the Adventure Privateer, 'Capt. Iſrael, on a Cruize: Off the Seven Iſlands he 'fell in with the Providence, Capt. La Maiſon Nongs, 'a French Privateer, of 10 Guns and 55 Men, which 'he ſoon took, and ſent her into Guernzey; and having 'learnt by her Captain, that his Conſort was oblig'd 'to put into St. Maloes to get a new Maſt, he cruized 'off that Place, and fell in with her the 15th, and took 'her alſo, after a ſtout Engagement of ſix Hours: She 'is call'd the Notre Dame de Vaux, Jean Fleurey, 'Commander, of 6 Carriage and 8 Swivel Guns, and '104 Men; he has brought her in here. What encour-'ag'd her to fight ſo long was, that the Princeſs Au-'guſta Privateer appear'd under French Colours; but 'as ſoon as ſhe hoiſted Engliſh, Capt. Fleurey ſtruck to 'the Firebrand. This is the fourth French Privateer 'which Capt. Iſrael has taken within theſe ſeven Weeks. 'The Adventure, Princeſs Auguſta, and Squirrel Pri-'vateers are all gone on a Cruize.

Extract of a Letter from Dover, dated July 23.

'The Eagle Privateer is arriv'd here from a Cruize, 'in which ſhe drove a French Dogger on Shore on the 'Coaſt of France, and oblig'd the People to quit her; 'ſhe endeavour'd to get her off, but the French Soldiers 'on Shore came down ſo faſt upon them, and an Acci-'dent happening to the Eagle, by one of her Two-'Pounders burſting, that wounded three of her Men; 'at which Time the Lieutenant had the Misfortune to 'break his Collar-Bone, by firing a Wall-Piece at ſome 'of the Frenchmen, who had ſhelter'd themſelves 'amongſt the Rocks, ſhe was oblig'd to come away 'without her Booty.

'Alſo came in the Hawk Privateer, from a Cruize, 'and has brought in with her the Angle Mary Gally, 'Corner, from Amſterdam, loaden with Gun-Powder, '&c. the Maſter ſays ſhe was bound to Oporto, but 'there are Reaſons to believe otherwiſe.'

15.55

Extract of a Letter from Capt. William Potter, of the Firebrand Privateer bound to Exeter, dated the 10th Instant, 12 Leagues S. W. of Ushant, which came by a Dutch Ship.

'On the 6th Instant, by Three in the Morning, Capt. Potter espy'd two Sail, to which he gave Chace, and came up with them about Eight; he found them to be Privateers, one mounted with 36 Carriage Guns, the other with 14 Carriage and as many Swivels, and both together suppos'd to have about 500 Men: They fought him both on one Side; but he soon disabled the least, and after fighting the other two Glasses she thought fit to sheer off. Capt. Potter had four Men kill'd and five wounded, who are like to do well again: He says his Crew behav'd like Englishmen, and tho' he receiv'd above 500 Shot, great and small, in his Hull, Sails and Rigging, he would wait some time longer in that Station, and hoped soon to bring home a Prize. The Firebrand has 22 Carriage and 12 Swivel Guns, and 123 Men.

Extract of a Letter from Ipswich, dated July 16.

'On Saturday last a melancholy Affair happen'd at Aldborough in Suffolk: The Pilots seeing some Ships coming, they, to the Number of Six, took a Boat, and went to see if they did not want Assistance; but the First they saw did not, but the Second put out a Signal for one, and was then under English Colours; and when they got within the Reach of the Speaking Trumpet, one of the Crew spoke to the Pilots in good English, and told them they wanted a Pilot; upon which the poor Fellows rowed towards the Ship, and when they came just under her Bow, they found themselves betray'd, for she was a French Privateer, who threw a Rope which they did not catch, and without any further Provocation, they fir'd down into the Boat; one Man was shot in the Forehead by a Ball, which went out at the back Part of his Head, who never groan'd after; a Second was shot in the Back, who liv'd about twelve Hours after, and then died; and a Third was shot thro' the Arm, but whether he will be sav'd is uncertain; the other three begg'd hard for their Lives, and offer'd to go on board; but notwithstanding such Submission, the merciless Villains still continued firing; upon which they fell down in the Boat, and let her drive towards the Shore, which made the Privateer's Crew think they had been all kill'd; for after the Boat was drove a great Distance from the Ship, one of the Men look'd up, and thought they should be able to get a Shore, before she could come within Gun-shot of the Boat again; accordingly the three that escaped, got to their Oars, and so soon as the Privateer saw it, she tacked and fir'd with her Carriage and Swivel Guns, but did not hit them; she had ten of each, and is supposed to be the Susannah, that has taken so many Prizes lately; all the Inhabitants, as well as the Pilots, are under great Concern, for they are in the utmost Danger of losing their Lives, as well as their Fortunes; within these three Days two other Privateers have been seen on the Coast.'

From the London Gazette.

At the Court of Kensington, the 19th Day of July, 1744. PRESENT,

The King's most Excellent Majesty in Council.

His Majesty in Council was this Day pleas'd to order, that the Parliament which stands prorogu'd to Thursday the 2d Day of August next, should be further prorogu'd to Thursday the 20th Day of September next.

Admiralty-Office, July 21. The following Dutch Ships of War are arriv'd at Spithead.

Ships.	*Commanders.*	*Guns.*	*Men.*
Dordreyth,	V. Adm. t'Hooft,	54	300
Damiale,	V. Adm. Scriver,	64	325
Leenwenhorst,	R. Adm. Reynst,	54	270
Edam,	Capt. Trensel,	54	270
Assendelft,	Boudaen,	54	270
Delft,	Weleseyn,	54	270

From the Supplement to the London Gazette.

Lauterbourg, July 21. The same Night that his Serene Highness Prince Charles design'd to march his Troops from Drinbach to Haguenau, the Rhine overflow'd on a sudden, occasion'd as well by the Rains as by the melting of the Snow, which retarded the Execution of his Projects. The Troops, in spight of this unlucky Disappointment, do not shew less Desire to march to the Enemy; and, if his Highness did not restrain their Ardour, they would swim to the Attack of the Enemy. So fine an Army has not been seen for many Years; and if the Rhine continues to fall as it does, it is not doubted but we shall soon have Orders to march directly to the Enemy. We work without Intermission to carry on our Approaches towards Fort Lous, where, in spite of the continual Fire of the Place, our Works are carried on, and we have not hitherto lost more than five or six Men. The Desertion amongst the French does not yet cease, and we see by their Muster-Rolls which have been intercepted, that, from the 1st to the 28th Instant, the Number of their Dead, Wounded, Prisoners and Deserters, amounts to above 12,000 Men.

Rheinhausen, July 28. The two Armies upon the Upper Rhine have lain for a Week past in a Kind of Inaction, occasion'd by the continual Showers and Overflowing of the Rhine, and the small Streams which fall into it. The Head Quarters were remov'd the Day before yesterday from Drinbach to Soultz, three Leagues from Haguenau, which is the Head Quarter of the Imperial Army. The French Camp between Strasbourg and the Motter. The 20,000 Men from Bavaria, under General Bathiani, are already arriv'd in this Neighbourhood with a great Train of Artillery, more is coming from Freybourg, the Whole intended for the Siege of Fort Louis, which is blockaded, and the Austrians are already Masters of some of its Outworks. We hear from Landau, that Prince Charles's Hussars do their Duty so well about that Place, that nothing can go in or come out, without Danger of falling into their Hands. Sixty Oxen, which were conducting thither, were taken some Days since. That Garrison is already in Want of Salt.

Paris, July 24. This Moment we learn, that on the 21st Instant the Attacks were made in the Mountains of Piedmont, that the French and Spaniards had taken by Storm the Castles of Dauphin and Demont, but that they lost 150 Officers kill'd or wounded, and 4600 Men. The Bailiff de Givry mortally wounded, M. Danois, M. le Duc d'Agenois, M. de la Carte, M. de Aubterre, kill'd, M. de Chaiseul, wounded; and all the principal Officers either kill'd or wounded.

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